

Gulf of Mexico Alliance Regional Restoration Coordination Team
Conference call 01-10-07, 3:00pm CST

Participants:

Lynn Martin (USACE)
Drew Puffer (EPA)
Bobbi Reed (GMF)
Kristopher Benson (NOAA)
Larry Parson (USACE)
Tom Calnan (TGLO)
Woody Woodrow (TPWD)
Chris David (NOAA)
Columbus Brown (USFWS)

Heidi Recksik (NOAA)
Robert Seyfarth (MDEQ)
Bob Bosenberg (USACE)
Randy Runnels (FDEP)
Carl Ferraro (ALDNR)
David Dale (NMFS)
Quenton Dokken (GoMF)
Doug Jacobsen (EPA)

1.) Discussing the Upcoming Round Robin Meeting

CF: Site is reserved for March 6-9. Running through the details of the agenda.

CF: Potentially expanding the session on the Alabama-Mississippi database

CB: When are we going to talk about permitting and granting, impediments to restoration efforts?

WW: Concur with the CB that we need to discuss impediments.

CF: What should we talk about during the working lunch?

BR: It worked well during New Orleans

WW: Defer to you Carl about what we should do during lunch.

CF: Talk more about Impediments and successes to restoration in Alabama in the morning.

WW: Not sure if an hour is long enough.

KB: There is additional time the next day for Mississippi as well, so we would get 2 hours potentially.

CF: Actual projects on the ground for successes and lessons learned in the afternoon.

KB: What about a vision moving forward like what we got from Len Bahr, etc.,?

CF: Not sure we are there yet.

WW: Is there a lot of relationship building with the counties in Alabama?

CF: Mobile and Baldwin counties have different levels of interest in environmental issues.

WW: I would like to know more about what the other states are experiencing in terms of working with local governments. Other states want to chime in?

RR: I think we need to keep our eyes on what we are trying to accomplish and what the products are going to be.

TC: Vision for the future is a great point, but Louisiana has been able to do a bit more work on putting together a vision than other states.

RS: Not as far along as AL, but that has been a good guide and we have had some meetings and have some projects I would like to look at during the meeting. Such as the CIAP, Coastal Improvement Program and a restoration initiative put forth by the governor.

RS: Another thing to discuss is the barrier islands, considering what happened after Katrina, and how to approach restoration for barrier islands. Oysters and SAVs are another consideration.

RS: Shooting for the 31st to have the agenda fleshed out

DP: Is everyone OK with pushing the next call back to the 31st?

[General consensus]

2.) Conflicts with the Dates of the Meeting

RS: Concerned about the length of the meeting. Are we still looking at 3+ days?

KB: There are a few conflicting meetings, Coastal Program Managers and Coastal GeoTools.

CF: I can change the date if there is a conflict without a problem, but I'm not going to the Managers meeting this year, so that clears it up for me.

TC & WW: No conflict for me.

LM: Hab ID people might be conflicting due to GeoTools.

KB: I'll discuss with Becky.

3.) Funding.

KB: RFP updates, Drew?

DP: Unfortunately, we will not be able to disperse the funds for the meeting in time from the RFP.

KB: GMP and GMF can provide funding for a couple of people each. Who from the states plans to come?

TC: Woody and myself.

RR: Just me from Florida

RS: Will have to file out of state travel, but can probably take care of it through the state.

CF: There is no ground transportation from the Mobile Airport. You'll have to rent a car or take a cab if you fly into Mobile.

QD: Make sure Carl and Robert, you get together with Bobbi to deal with logistics

BR: I'm going to have start dealing with hotel issues now.

WW: Would like to have Kendall come to the meeting as well.

KB: Considering she was involved with the last one, it would make sense. We really need to make sure all the people that need to be there are allocated travel funding first.

4.) Next Call.

KB: Firm up the next call. How do people feel about the 31st?

[General agreement]

KB: Because of the federal workgroup meeting, we'll move the following call to the 15th instead of the 14th of February.

Call ended at 4:08 PM CST.